WEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO
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Absence Line | 4433 4911
P: 5443 2133 | F: 5442 7641
Follow our Principal on Twitter https://twitter.com/#!/wcb_prin

WCB CONTACTS

Principal | Leanne Preece
Assistant Principal | Helen Tuohey

ZEST College Support Team
Chaplain | Carl Rusbridge
College Nurse | Sarah Warburton

Katyil
Leaders
Jason Bysouth
Bree Franks

Learning Advisors
L7A Gary Schroeder
L8A Jaime Gray
L9A Helen Peppinick
L9B Mark Adams
L1A Carolyn Jones
L1B Dianne Andrea

Learning Advisors
M7A Therese Johnston
M7B Meryl Hayes
M8A Leigh Schroeter
M9A Christine Toose
M9B Michelle Griffin
M1A Christine Henty
M1B Jean Stephens

Kappen
Leaders
Sue Pollard
Trent Bysouth

Learning Advisors
K7A Erin Pliskington
K7B Ryan Currie
K8A James Ginnivan
K8B Amanda Southcombe / Brian Edebohls
K9A Marion Stewart
K9B Stephen Hocking
K1A Alan Aylward
K1B Christine Edgar

WCB UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

3rd | School Council – 6.30pm
4th | Grade 6 Orientation Day – school free day for Year 8 & 9 students
5th | Year 10 Valedictory Dinner – Platinum Room
     Foundry Hotel
11th | WCB Awards Evening – 7pm at BSSC Gym
12th | Parents’ Club – AGM – 9.30am
21st | Last Day of Term 4

SCHOOL TIMES

Start 9am
Lunch 11.43am - 12.33pm
Recess 1.44pm - 2.04pm
Finish 3.15pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
8.15am - 4pm

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Thursday 8.30am – 12.00pm
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Celebrating 2012
At this time of the year I often get the comment “you must be starting to wind down at school” and yet nothing could be further from the truth. Schools are always busy places and at this time of the year we have the added pressure of planning for next year alongside celebrating the achievements of our fantastic students and staff.

Last weekend saw a fabulous team of students supported by staff and parents participate in the RACV Energy Breakthrough competition in Maryborough. We had three cars with teams of riders and pit crew competing in the human powered and hybrid sections against over 300 schools from all parts of Victoria. All did really well and of particular note is our EEV Petrol team - Ethol 2 who came second in their race and won a trophy for their presentation where they wowed the judges with their knowledge of their vehicle. A big congratulations to everyone and many thanks to the team of dedicated staff who have put in hours with the students to build the cars, train the students and fundraise for the teams.

On Tuesday night I had the pleasure of attending our annual music concert with all the parents and supporters of the students in our music program in 2012. It was terrific to listen to all of the students perform, no matter how long they have been learning to play a musical instrument. Also pleasing is the number of young students who have joined the program this year as this bodes well for our program for future years. I would like to wish all of the year 10 students: Thomas C, Matthew C, Leigh R, Francois S, Natalie J, Laura W, Freya F, Anjaly C, Bridget G and Anthony H all the very best as they transition from our school to their future education and training destinations. You have been great ambassadors for our school and the music program at Weeronga College Bendigo.

Staff are looking forward to next Wednesday evening as we celebrate with our Year 10 students at our annual Valedictory Dinner. An opportunity for these students to dress up, celebrate and reflect on their time at Weeronga College Bendigo.

Planning is currently underway for our annual awards night on Tuesday 11 December beginning at 7.00pm at Bendigo Senior Secondary College in the gymnasium and all parents and students are encouraged to attend and celebrate our students achievements with us. Those students receiving awards will receive an invitation to attend.
Kick Start 2013
To complete our academic year at Weeroona College Bendigo, we are planning to run a Kick Start 2013 program which will involve all current students being placed in their 2013 classes and beginning units and programs that will contribute to their 2013 assessment. This program will commence on Monday 10 December and run through to Thursday 20 December 2012 and you will receive a letter in the post next week outlining the program in more detail. We ask for your support with this program by ensuring that attendance is maintained during this time.

Leanne Preece
Principal

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...

Conveyance Allowance 2013
There has been a change today on the Governments’ decision to means test the Conveyance Allowance. Rules the same as this year will apply in 2013.

Orientation Day
Our Annual Orientation Day for 2013 Year 7 students will be held on Tuesday 4th December. Current students in Years 8 & 9 are not required at school on this day.

Booklists
Booklists are due back at school by MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER. Please contact CVOS for any queries 5444 2527. Collection dates (from CVOS) for Booklists will be; Wednesday 23rd January – 9.00am – 5.30pm & Saturday 26th January – 9.00am – 12.30pm.

**Please note that there was an omission of a CASION SCIENTIFIC FX82AU-PLUS CALCULATOR (For Years 8 – 10) that was meant to be on all year levels Booklists for maths. Cost for this is $ 26.75. You can hand write this on the bottom of the booklist to add it or purchase it from the office on Start up Day. We apologise for the inconvenience.

A Reminder to Parents
The Administration entrance of our new school can be found via the Napier Street carpark and you are asked to access the school via Administration for all visits.
New School Kids Bonus 2013

YEAR 8 NETBOOKS

All Year 8 students are required to return their netbooks by Monday 17th of December. These Netbooks are not for sale to students, all data that is required should be backed up. Acer Netbooks will be issued in 2013 to the then year 9 students.

DOBSON’S UNIFORM SHOP

You can purchase uniforms in the temporary shop (situated at the front of the school near the General Office) during opening hours Tues 2.00pm – 5.00pm & Thurs 8.30am -12 noon (due to the move, CASH ONLY or Credit Card only, NOT debit cards).


NORMAL TRADING HOURS 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2.00pm – 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8.30am – 12.00 noon</td>
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Contact Marie or Rosie at the Campus Uniform Shop on 4433 4947 if you need a personal fitting appointment.

DECEMBER 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>04/12/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>06/12/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>13/12/2012</td>
<td>8.30am – 12noon</td>
<td>Last Trading Day 2012</td>
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JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>23/01/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24/01/2013</td>
<td>11.00am – 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>25/01/2013</td>
<td>11.00am – 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.00pm – 8.00pm</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>31/01/2013</td>
<td>9.00am – 2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>01/02/2013</td>
<td>8.00am – 9.30am</td>
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As of Tuesday 5th February, 2013 - Resume normal trading

MUSIC NEWS

Tuesday night was a fabulous night for a BBQ and a concert. Parents, students and friends mingled on "The Hill" and enjoyed the BBQ organised by the Parents Club. This set a picnic atmosphere and was a lovely prelude to the concert.

The Choir joined the College band in the opening items and then the instrumental music students demonstrated the skills they had acquired on their instruments over the year. They are all to be commended on the progress made and for giving fine performances throughout the evening.

Many of these students were in Year 7 and we hope they continue with their music studies next year. There is much talent coming up through the ranks and this need to be encouraged, developed and nurtured.

The evening gave us a chance to farewell and thank our Year 10 students. They have been a delight to work with over the years and we hope they continue to get much joy from their music studies.

Thankyou to all our Music staff, the Parents Club and to all the parents for coming along and giving such wonderful support to the Music Program.

Last but not least a big thankyou to Zac Arnold and Geoff Ellett who helped with all the sound technology for the evening.

Mrs Therese Johnston
School Music Coordinator
ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

The 2012 RACV Energy Breakthrough has been run and won for another year. Once again the students were pushed to their limits. The event was run in extremely hot weather conditions which meant drivers could only spend a short time in the vehicles.

All teams performed very well in Design and Construction & Display and Presentation, with the Hybrid team Ethol 2.0 winning the Display and Presentation award. The senior car Lazer travelled a distance of 679km’s, the junior car Alpha travelled a distance of 585km’s and the hybrid car Ethol 2.0 completed 528 km’s on less than 6 lts of fuel.

Each and every student performed very well and should be proud of their efforts this included training and vehicle preparation to supporting Relay For Life and approaching local businesses for sponsorship and running BBQ’s.

This activity could not run without the support of the teachers involved, for this we extend our sincere appreciation. To all the parents who help, without your support this program could not run.

Well done to everyone and may you continue to show dedication and commitment to allow this life changing event to continue in 2013.

Mark Adams
Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy (any medical condition):
Weeroona College Bendigo takes individual student illness and medical conditions very seriously. If you have a child that may suffer from one of the medical conditions below it is vital that we are made aware. We have an overall responsibility for implementing strategies and processes for ensuring a safe and supportive environment for students at risk of any of these conditions:

- Anaphylaxis
- Asthma
- Allergies
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Or any other medical condition

Action plans for any medical condition is highly recommended. Some can be found on our school website. Please print them off and then complete them with your doctor’s signature.
If you are unable to print off the action plans you require, please see myself (Sarah – School Nurse) or the General Office and copies will be available.

It is very important that you remember to bring all completed action plans or letters from your doctor with you on Start up Day in 2013. After you have met with your Advisor, please see Sarah in the General Office to go over your forms or to talk in further detail about your child’s condition.

Medication that your child requires should be brought with you on start up day. Depending on your child’s condition, medication is either kept with your child in their bag or locker. Some medication will be kept in the General Office such as Epipens.

The school website is: [http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au/](http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au/) . All action plans will be under Welfare from Friday 7th December 2012.

Sarah Warburton
School Nurse
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:
The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16. From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points. In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years. From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option
From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment:
• Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
• Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
• Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses
The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

**Eligibility:**

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at **29 January 2013** (Instalment One) and **15 July 2013** (Instalment Two).

**Payment Amounts - 2013:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instalment One</strong></td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Instalment Two</strong></td>
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<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Total</strong></td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
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*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

EMA application forms will be available from the General Office on Start Up Day 2013 to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is **28 February 2013**.